



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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Minutes of September 15, 2011

Chair Jo Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM following adjournment of the special town meeting. The meeting took place at the Lamoine School Gym.

Present were: Selectmen Cynthia Donaldson, S. Josephine Cooper, Richard Fennelly Jr., Gary McFarland, William Brann; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, RSU 24 Representative Brett Jones, Budget Committee member Kathleen DeFusco, and Assessor/Deputy CEO Michael Jordan

Minutes of September 1, 2011 – Richard said he had one minor correction for the minutes. Cynthia said she had a couple. Richard moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Cynthia 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Expenditure Warrant 6 – Selectmen signed warrant 6 in the amount of \$291,140.13. Stu reported approximately \$273,000 was for schools and a transfer into the investment account. He noted the bill for the town attorney for the Gott case is on the warrant for \$2,930.00. Cynthia said the board had discussed the purpose for alerting the board to larger than usual legal fees and said she appreciated the report.

Cash and Budget Report – There were no comments or questions regarding the written report.

Investment Management Report – Richard asked about the current investment portfolio in regard to Certificates of Deposit and Money Market Accounts. Stu reported that when the town made its final draw in July, it exhausted the money market accounts, but that CD's were paying more interest.

Audit – Stu reported that he had closed the books on 2010/11 and the auditors will be at the town office on September 29, 2011 to do their thing.

Public Salt/Sand Policy – Jo said this is the policy the Selectmen have been talking about for some time, allowing folks to get an emergency bucket of sand if needed. There was a brief discussion about monitoring to make sure no one abuses the privilege. Jo moved to adopt the policy as written. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Thank-you for kayak sign – Jo said a kayaking safety sign supplied by David Legere has been installed at Lamoine Beach and it looks very nice. Selectmen signed a card thanking Mr. Legere for the donation.

Budget Schedule – Stu reported that the Budget Committee met Monday and made its recommendations on the town meeting. He said Hubene Brodie was selected as chair and Merle Bragdon the vice-chair. He said the first meeting is October 17, 2011. He reported that a full voting member needs to be appointed, and both alternates have expressed interest in assuming that seat.

Lamoine Quarterly – Stu said his intention is to get the next edition of the Lamoine Quarterly written prior to the next meeting and e-mailed in draft form to the Selectmen for editing and publishing around October 1st.

Oil Contracts – Jo moved to approve the two contracts for heating fuel with Acadia Fuel and to authorize the Treasurer to send a check for the prepaid amount to be shown in the next expenditure warrant. Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0. Jo signed the contracts.**

Returnables applications – Jo moved to assign the returnable proceeds to Lamoine School Music program for December 2011 and the Lamoine School 8th grade class for January, 2012. Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Local School Advisory Committee Update – Brett Jones said the Local School Advisory Committee has been meeting monthly. He said the committee is collecting data to try to show what the cost is for being a member of RSU 24 versus the other options. He said they intend to hold a meeting at the school to go over that data with the public. He said initially it does not look like the RSU is costing any more than other options. He said a meeting is planned for October 20th.

Mr. Jones said the issues are the costs, self governance, and the quality of education in comparison to the other options. He said the issue might be put before the voters at the next presidential election. He said he believes the process is to put together a petition with the correct amount of signatures to put the matter before voters to withdraw from the RSU. Jo asked if the intent was to become an independent school unit. Mr. Jones said the inquiry is more to see if the town wishes to remain with the RSU. He said costs are still difficult to determine.

Richard asked if it is the intent of the local school advisory committee to bring a path forward. Mr. Jones said the first step is withdrawal which allows time after a vote to determine a way to proceed. There was a brief discussion about the impact of the RSU budget on Hancock.

Richard said it would be handy to know the comparative costs of all the options available. Mr. Jones said he agreed. He said there is data from Trenton which is part of AOS 91, so they know the before and after costs. Richard asked if the town were to withdraw, high school arrangements would need to be made. Mr. Jones said it would be similar to what happened when the town was part of Union 92.

Richard asked if the town were to withdraw, would the school building no longer belong to RSU 24. Stu asked if the town would have to compensate RSU 24 to “buy its school back”. Mr. Jones said if Ellsworth, for example, were to pull out of RSU 24, staffing would be a big issue at the central office. Richard said if any one town were to pull out, it's likely that would be a major expense to the other towns.

Mr. Jones said the idea of self governance is what appeals to him. He said there might be some discussion about converting the RSU to an Alternative Organizational Structure

(AOS). Bill asked if withdrawal talk originated at the RSU meetings. Mr. Jones said it was at the Local School Advisory Committee meeting.

Jo said the Selectmen appreciate the update. She asked when the committee meetings are held. Mr. Jones said it's been a bit inconsistent, but they try for the first week of the month. He said he just received a draft of some comparison data, and they will have that available for the October 20th meeting.

Marlboro Beach – Stu reported a boat has been parked on Marlboro Beach for several weeks. He said he ran the registration through the MOSES system and determined the owner was from Searsport. He said he contacted Kerry Galeaz and shot off a letter to the owner asking him to move it as boats are not supposed to be stored in park areas.

Stu reported the eroded areas near the beach road require a permit by rule to be repaired. He said he plans to check with Jim Norris first to make sure the town has a right in that area. Selectmen looked over the initial paperwork. Stu noted it will cost \$65 for the permit.

Municipal Review Committee Director Nomination – There were no takers.

Lamoine Beach Barrier – Cynthia asked if there is some way to erect a barrier at the end of Route 184 at Lamoine Beach in light of the recent fatal accident there. Jo said it's a state highway. Stu reported he met with State Trooper Greg Roy who had planned to ask the Maine DOT. He said he would follow up with Trooper Roy.

Road Mowing – Mike Jordan said he didn't think the grass on the roadsides had been mowed back far enough to meet the bid specification. He said he thinks the spec called for 6-feet back, and about 80% of the town was mowed only 4-feet back. Jo said the Selectmen can check into that. Richard noted he received a call from a Shore Road resident several years ago that the mowing left a strip between the road and his lawn, and that didn't happen this year.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Selectmen